Production of tomatoes developed by America

†2384. SHRI LAJPAT RAI: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the fact that PURDE University in America and United States Department of Agriculture has developed any species of tomato which contain anti-cancer lifoyin element;

(b) if so, whether Government would make efforts to produce these tomatoes; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) Yes, Sir. Researchers from PURDE University and United States Department of Agriculture have claimed development of tomatoes containing enhanced cancer-fighting antioxidant lycopene content.

(b) and (c) Indian Institute of Vegetable Research, Varanasi and National Research Centre for Plant Biotechnology, Pusa, New Delhi will make efforts to develop tomato varieties with high lycopene content. However, National Research Centre for Plant Biotechnology, Pusa, New Delhi is making efforts in obtaining more information about this research work.

Notices by NPPA for overcharging

2385. SHRI KHAN GHUFRAN ZAHIDI: Will the Minister of CHEMICALS AND FERTILIZERS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that Revital is being marketed by Delta, a sister company of Ranbaxy;

(b) whether it is also a fact that M/s Delta have not taken any price approval for this formulation;

(c) whether NPPA has issued notice to Ranbaxy for overcharging for this drug; and

(d) if so, the amount overcharged and the amount recovered?

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.